

Last Time: - Span and Subspaces

- Linear independence... ←

Defn: Let  $V$  be a vector space. A set  $S \subseteq V$  is linearly independent when for all  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n \in S$  if

$$c_1 s_1 + c_2 s_2 + \dots + c_n s_n = 0$$

then  $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_n = 0$ .

NB: i.e. the only linear combination giving rise to  $0$ , is the "0 linear combination".

Remark: If  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  is finite, then  $S$  is lin. indep precisely when

$$[v_1 | v_2 | \dots | v_n] \vec{x} = \vec{0} \text{ has a unique solution.}$$

columns

Ex: Decide if  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is lin. indep.

Sol: We solve the system

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightsquigarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

∴ Original system has the same solution set as:

$$\begin{cases} x + z = 0 \\ y + 2z = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x = -t \\ y = -2t \\ z = t \end{cases}$$

∴ Solution set is  $\left\{ t \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ .

As the system has infinitely many solutions,

we have  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is dependent!  $\square$

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Ex: Is  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  lin indep?

Sol: We solve the system:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \begin{cases} x = 0 \\ y = 0 \\ z = 0 \end{cases}$$

∴ Solution set is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

Hence the only lin comb of vectors in  $S$  to give zero vector is the 0 combination!

Hence  $S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is lin indep!  $\square$

# Properties of Linear Independence

Prop: Let  $S \subseteq V$  for some vector space  $V$ .

① If  $A \subseteq S$  and  $S$  is lin. indep, then  $A$  is linearly independent.

② If  $D \subseteq S$  and  $D$  is lin. dep., then  $S$  is linearly dependent.

Pf: Let  $S \subseteq V$  for vector space  $V$ .

①: Assume  $S$  is lin. indep and let  $A \subseteq S$ .

If  $A$  has a linear relationship

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n = 0_V$$

for  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in A$ , then  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in S$

Hence this is a linear combination of vectors in  $S$ . Because  $S$  is lin. indep,  $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_n = 0$ .

Hence  $A$  is linearly indep by definition.

②: This is the contrapositive of ①.  $\square$

Let  $D \subseteq S$  and suppose  $D$  is lin. dep. Hence

There are vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in D$  and nonzero real numbers  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n = 0_V.$$

But  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in S$  because  $D \subseteq S$ , so

this nonzero linear combination is also a combination of vectors in  $S$ . Hence  $S$  is linearly dependent.  $\square$

Ex: Let  $V$  be a vector space. The empty set

$\emptyset$  is linearly independent because it has no vectors to make a nonzero combination!

Prop Let  $u \in S \subseteq V$  for some vector space  $V$ . Then  $[u \in \text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\})]$  if and only if (there is a nonzero linear dependence relation in  $S$  involving  $u$ ).

Pf: Let  $0 \neq u \in S \subseteq V$  for vector space  $V$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Assume  $u \in \text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\})$ . Then

$u$  is a linear combination of vectors in  $S \setminus \{u\}$ .

Thus  $u = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n$  for some

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in S$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Hence  $0_v = (-1)u + c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n$  is a nontrivial linear combination involving  $u$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Assume there is a linear dep relation in  $S$  involving  $u$ . Hence there are  $a, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $a \neq 0$  and vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in S \setminus \{u\}$

such that  $0_v = au + c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n$ .

Thus  $-au = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n$  holds by subtracting  $au$  from both sides. Now scalar multiply by  $-\frac{1}{a}$

to obtain  $u = \frac{-a}{-a}u = -\frac{1}{a}(c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n)$ ,



and thus  $u = \left(-\frac{c_1}{a}\right)v_1 + \left(-\frac{c_2}{a}\right)v_2 + \dots + \left(-\frac{c_n}{a}\right)v_n$ .

Hence  $u \in \text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\})$  as desired.  $\square$

(A nontrivial linear combination is a linear combination of vectors with all involved scalars nonzero).

Remark on  $0_V$ : Is  $\{0_V\}$  lin indep? **NO!**

\*  $c0_V = 0_V$  for all  $c \in \mathbb{R}$   
so  $10_V = 0_V$  is a nontrivial linear dep!

Hence  $\{0_V\}$  is lin. dep. set! Hence any set containing  $0_V$  is linearly dependent!

Cor: Let  $S \subseteq V$  for vector space  $V$ . For all  $u \in V \setminus S$  we have  $u \in \text{Span}(S)$  if and only if  $S \cup \{u\}$  is linearly dependent.  
 $\uparrow$   
union

Cor: For all  $u \in V$  and all  $S \subseteq V$  we have  $\text{Span}(S \cup \{u\}) = \text{Span}(S)$  if and only if  $u \in \text{Span}(S)$ .

pt: Let  $u \in V$  and  $S \subseteq V$ .

$(\Rightarrow)$ : Suppose  $\text{Span}(S \cup \{u\}) = \text{Span}(S)$ . Note

$u \in S \cup \{u\} \subseteq \text{Span}(S \cup \{u\}) = \text{Span}(S)$ , so

$u \in \text{Span}(S)$  as desired.  $\square$

$(\Leftarrow)$ : Suppose  $u \in \text{Span}(S)$ . Thus  $u = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n$

for some  $v_1, \dots, v_n \in S \setminus \{u\}$ .  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Now any linear combination involving  $u$  can be rewritten using

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ . Hence,  $\text{Span}(S \cup \{u\}) \subseteq \text{Span}(S)$ .

Thus we have  $\text{Span}(S \cup \{u\}) = \text{Span}(S)$ .  $\square$

Cor: Let  $V$  be a vector space. Subset  $S \subseteq V$  is linearly indep if and only if for all  $u \in S$  we have  $\text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\}) \subsetneq \text{Span}(S)$ .

pf: Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $S \subseteq V$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Suppose  $S$  is lin. indep. Let  $u \in S$  be arbitrary. Now  $u \in \text{Span}(S)$ . If

$u \in \text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\})$ , then there would be a linear dependence in  $(S \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{u\} = S$  by the proposition! As  $S$  is lin. indep,  $u \notin \text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\})$  so  $\text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\}) \subsetneq \text{Span}(S)$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Suppose  $\text{Span}(S \setminus \{u\}) \subsetneq \text{Span}(S)$  for all  $u \in S$ . Suppose  $S$  is lin. dep. Thus there is a nontrivial lin. dep. relation  $c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_n v_n = 0_V$  for some vectors  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \in S$  where

$c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$  are all nonzero. Thus  $c_1 \neq 0$ .

But this is a nontrivial linear dependence involving  $v_1$ , so  $v_1 \in \text{Span}(S \setminus \{v_1\})$  by the proposition contradicting our assumption (b/c  $\text{Span}(S \setminus \{v_1\}) \subsetneq \text{Span}(S)$ ). Hence there is no nontrivial lin. dep. in  $S$ , so  $S$  is linearly independent.  $\square$

Prop: Let  $V$  be a vector space. Every finite set  $S \subseteq V$  has an  $I \subseteq S$  such that

- ①  $I$  is lin. indep., and
- ②  $\text{span}(I) = \text{span}(S)$ .

pf: On hold...

□

Ex: Find a lin indep set contained in

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

with the same span.

Sol: Next time.

□